

## REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of 06/25/2004, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in their amended form.

By this amendment applicant has amended claims 1-6 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which he regards as his invention. In their amended form the claims now recite an unsymmetrical dye of the indicated formula. This language is believed to clarify that the invention is not directed to a mixture of dyes but the individual dyes encompassed by the formula. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to note that there was a typographical error in line 1 of claim 1 as originally filed. The term "methane" should have read "methine" to correspond to the title of the invention. Any inconvenience to the Examiner is regretted.

By this amendment applicant wishes to confirm with traverse his election of the Group I invention which consists of claims 1-6. Claims 7-12 are believed to be as much a part of his invention as claims 1-6.

For each of the forgoing reasons applicant submits that the claims in their amended form are in condition for allowance. Early, favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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